

**INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT UNDER SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996**

Dated as of March 9, 1998

by and between

BELL ATLANTIC-VIRGINIA, INC.

and

STARPOWER COMMUNICATIONS, LLC.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1.0 DEFINITIONS	2
2.0 INTERPRETATION AND CONSTRUCTION	10
3.0 INTERCONNECTION ACTIVATION DATES AND IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE	11
4.0 INTERCONNECTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(c)(2)	12
4.1 Scope	12
4.2 Physical Architecture	13
4.3 Initial Architecture	14
4.4 Interconnection in Additional LATAs	15
4.5 Interconnection Points for Different Types of Traffic	15
5.0 TRANSMISSION AND ROUTING OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SERVICE TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(c)(2)	15
5.1 Scope of Traffic	15
5.2 Trunk Group Connections and Ordering	16
5.3 Additional Switching System Hierarchy and Trunking Requirements	16
5.4 Signaling	16
5.5 Grades of Service	16
5.6 Measurement and Billing	16
5.7 Reciprocal Compensation Arrangements -- Section 251(b)(5)	17
6.0 TRANSMISSION AND ROUTING OF EXCHANGE ACCESS TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO 251(c)(2)	18
6.1 Scope of Traffic	18
6.2 Trunk Group Architecture and Traffic Routing	19
6.3 Meet-Point Billing Arrangements	19
6.4 800/888 Traffic	21
7.0 TRANSPORT AND TERMINATION OF OTHER TYPES OF TRAFFIC	23
7.1 Information Services Traffic	23
7.2 LSV/VCI Traffic	24
7.3 Transit Service	24
7.4 911/E911 Arrangements	25
7.5 Ancillary Traffic Generally	27
8.0 NUMBER RESOURCES, RATE CENTERS, AND RATING POINTS	27

9.0	NETWORK MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT; OUTAGES	28
9.3	Interference or Impairment	28
9.4	Repeated or Willful Noncompliance	28
9.5	Outage Repair Standard	29
9.6	Notice of Changes -- Section 251(c)(5)	29
10.0	JOINT NETWORK RECONFIGURATION AND GROOMING PLAN AND INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE, TESTING AND REPAIR	29
10.1	Joint Network Reconfiguration and Grooming Plan	29
10.2	Installation, Maintenance, Testing and Repair	30
10.3	Forecasting Requirements for Trunk Provisioning	30
11.0	UNBUNDLED ACCESS -- SECTION 251(c)(3)	30
11.1	Unbundled Local Loop (ULL) Transmission Types	31
11.2	Port Types	32
11.3	Trunk Side Local Transport	32
11.4	Limitations on Unbundled Access	33
11.5	Availability of Other Network Elements on an Unbundled Basis	34
11.6	Provisioning of Unbundled Local Loops	34
11.7	Maintenance of Unbundled Local Loops	36
11.8	Rates and Charges	35
12.0	RESALE -- SECTIONS 251(c)(4) and 251(b)(1)	36
12.1	Availability of Retail Rates for Resale	36
12.2	Availability of Wholesale Rates for Resale	36
12.3	Availability of Support Services and Branding for Resale	37
12.4	Additional Terms Governing Resale and Use of BA Services	37
13.0	COLLOCATION -- SECTION 251(c)(6)	38
14.0	NUMBER PORTABILITY -- SECTION 251(b)(2)	39
14.1	Scope	39
14.2	Procedures for Providing INP Through Remote Call Forwarding	40
14.3	Procedures for Providing INP Through Direct Inward Dial Trunks (Flex-DID)	41
14.4	Procedures for Providing LTNP Through Full NXX Code Migration	41
14.5	Receipt of Terminating Compensation on Traffic to INP'ed Numbers	41
14.6	Recovery of INP Costs Pursuant to FCC Order and Rulemaking	42
15.0	DIALING PARITY -- SECTION 251(b)(3)	43
16.0	ACCESS TO RIGHTS-OF-WAY -- SECTION 251(b)(4)	43

17.0	DATABASES AND SIGNALING	43
18.0	COORDINATED SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS	44
18.1	Intercept and Referral Announcements	44
18.2	Coordinated Repair Calls	45
18.3	Customer Authorization	45
19.0	DIRECTORY SERVICES ARRANGEMENTS	45
19.1	Directory Listings and Directory Distributions	46
19.2	Yellow Page Maintenance	47
19.3	Service Information Pages	47
19.4	Directory Assistance (DA); Call Completion	48
20.0	COORDINATION WITH TARIFF TERMS	48
21.0	INSURANCE	48
22.0	TERM AND TERMINATION	49
23.0	DISCLAIMER OF REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES	50
24.0	CANCELLATION CHARGES	50
25.0	INDEMNIFICATION	50
26.0	LIMITATION OF LIABILITY	51
27.0	PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR SPECIFIED ACTIVITIES	52
27.1	Certain Definitions	52
27.2	Performance Standards	53
27.3	Limitations	53
27.4	Service Quality Standards	54
27.5	Records	54
28.0	COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS; REGULATORY APPROVAL	54
29.0	MISCELLANEOUS	55
29.1	Authorization	55
29.2	Independent Contractor	55
29.3	Force Majeure	55
29.4	Confidentiality	56
29.5	Choice of Law	57
29.6	Taxes	57
29.7	Assignment	59
29.8	Billing and Payment; Disputed Amounts	59

29.9	Dispute Resolution	60
29.10	Notices	61
29.11	Section 252(i) Obligations	62
29.12	Joint Work Product	63
29.13	No Third Party Beneficiaries; Disclaimer of Agency	63
29.14	No License	63
29.15	Technology Upgrades	64
29.16	Survival	64
29.17	Entire Agreement	64
29.18	Counterparts	64
29.19	Modification, Amendment, Supplement or Waiver	64
29.20	Successors and Assigns	64
29.21	Publicity	64

LIST OF SCHEDULES AND EXHIBITS

Schedules

Schedule 1.0	Certain Terms As Defined in the Act, As of March 9, 1998
Schedule 3.0	Implementation Schedule
Schedule 4.0	Interconnection Points in LATA
Schedule 4.2	Physical Architecture Diagram
Schedule 4.3	Initial Architecture Diagram
Schedule 4.5	Interconnection Points for Different Types of Traffic
Schedule 6.3	Rate Elements Under Meet Point Billing
Schedule 12.3	Support Services for Resale
Schedule 27.0	Performance Interval Dates for Specified Activities
Schedule 27.1	StarPower Service Quality Standards

Exhibits

Exhibit A	Detailed Schedule of Itemized Charges
Exhibit B	Network Element Bona Fide Request
Exhibit C	Directory Assistance and Call Completion Services Agreement

INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT UNDER SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

This Interconnection Agreement under Sections 251 and 252 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, is effective as of the 9th day of March, 1998 (the "Effective Date"), by and between Bell Atlantic-Virginia, Inc. ("BA"), a Virginia corporation with offices at 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219, and StarPower Communications, LLC., a Limited Liability Company formed under the laws of Delaware, with offices at 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 225, Washington, D.C. 20037.

WHEREAS, the Parties want to interconnect their networks at mutually agreed upon points of interconnection to provide Telephone Exchange Services, Switched Exchange Access Services, and other Telecommunications Services (all as defined below) to their respective customers;

WHEREAS, the Parties are entering into this Agreement to set forth the respective obligations of the Parties and the terms and conditions under which the Parties will interconnect their networks and provide other services as required by the Act (as defined below) and additional services as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, Sections 251, 252, and 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 have specific requirements for interconnection, unbundling, and service resale, commonly referred to as the "Checklist", and the Parties intend that this Agreement meet those Checklist requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual provisions contained herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, Starpower and BA hereby agree as follows:

This Agreement sets forth the terms, conditions and pricing under which BA and Starpower (individually, a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties") will offer and provide to each other network Interconnection, access to Network Elements, ancillary services, and wholesale Telecommunications Services available for resale within each LATA in which they both operate within Virginia. As such, this Agreement is an integrated package that reflects a balancing of interests critical to the Parties. It will be submitted to the Virginia State Corporation Commission and the Parties will specifically request that the Commission refrain from taking any action to change, suspend or otherwise delay implementation of the Agreement. So long as the Agreement remains in effect, neither Party shall advocate before any legislative, regulatory, or other public forum that any term of this Agreement be modified or eliminated, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the Parties.

1.0 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings specified below in this Section 1.0. For convenience of reference only, the definitions of certain terms that are As Defined in the Act (as defined below) are set forth on Schedule 1.0.

1.1 "Act" means the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et. seq.), as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

1.2 "ADSL" or "Asymmetrical Digital Subscriber Line" means a transmission technology which transmits an asymmetrical digital signal of up to 6 mbps to the Customer and up to 640 kbps from the Customer.

1.3 [Reserved]

1.4 "Agreement" means this Interconnection Agreement under Sections 251 and 252 of the Act and all Exhibits and Schedules appended hereto.

1.5 "Ancillary Traffic," means all traffic that is destined for ancillary services, or that may have special billing requirements, including but not limited to the following: LSV/VCI, Directory Assistance, 911/E911, Operator Services (call completion), 800/888 database query, LIDB, and information services requiring special billing.

1.6 "As Defined in the Act" means as specifically defined by the Act and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

1.7 "As Described in the Act" means as described in or required by the Act and as from time to time interpreted in the duly authorized rules and regulations of the FCC or the Commission.

1.8 "Automatic Number Identification" or "ANI" means a Feature Group D signaling parameter which refers to the number transmitted through a network identifying the billing number of the calling party.

1.9 "Calling Party Number" or "CPN" is a Common Channel Signaling ("CCS") parameter which refers to the number transmitted through a network identifying the calling party.

1.10 "Central Office Switch" means a switch used to provide Telecommunications Services, including, but not limited to:

(a) "End Office Switch" or "End Office" which is used to terminate Customer station Loops for the purpose of interconnection to each other and to trunks; and

(b) "Tandem Switch" or "Tandem Office" which is a switching entity that is used to connect and switch trunk circuits between and among End Office Switches and between and among End Office Switches and carriers' aggregation points, points of termination, or points of presence. An "Access Tandem Office" or "Access Tandem" is a Tandem Office with billing and recording capabilities that is used to provide Switched Exchange Access Services.

A Central Office Switch may also be employed as a combination End Office/Tandem Office Switch.

1.11 [Reserved]

1.12 "CLASS Features" means certain CCS-based features available to Customers including, but not limited to: Automatic Call Back; Call Trace; Caller Identification, and future offerings.

1.13 "Collocation" means an arrangement whereby one Party's (the "Collocating Party") facilities are terminated in equipment necessary for Interconnection or for access to Network Elements offered by the second Party on an unbundled basis that has been installed and maintained at the premises of a second Party (the "Housing Party"). For purposes of Collocation, the "premises" of a Housing Party is limited to a Housing Party Wire Center, other mutually agreed-upon locations of the Housing Party, or any other location for which Collocation has been ordered by the FCC or Commission. Collocation may be "physical" or "virtual". In "Physical Collocation," the Collocating Party installs and maintains its own equipment in the Housing Party's premises. In "Virtual Collocation," the Housing Party owns, installs, and maintains equipment dedicated to use by the Collocating Party in the Housing Party's premises. BA currently provides Collocation under terms, rates, and conditions as described in tariffs on file or soon to be filed with the FCC and the Commission. Upon request by either Party, BA and Starpower will address the provision of additional types of Collocation arrangements, including additional physical locations and alternative utilizations of space and facilities.

1.14 "Commission" means the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

1.15 "Common Channel Signaling" or "CCS" means a method of transmitting call set-up and network control data over a digital signaling network separate from the public switched telephone network facilities that carry the actual voice or data traffic of the call. "SS7" means the common channel out of band signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph ("CCITT") and the American National Standards Institute ("ANSI"). BA and Starpower currently utilize this out-of-band signaling protocol. "CCSAC" or "CCSAS" means the common channel signaling access connection or service, respectively, which connects one Party's signaling point of interconnection ("SPOI") to the other Party's STP for the exchange of SS7 messages.

1.16 "Competing Local Exchange Carrier" or "CLEC" means any Local Exchange Carrier other than BA, operating as such in BA's certificated territory in Virginia. Starpower is or will shortly become a CLEC.

1.17 "Cross Connection" means a jumper cable or similar connection provided pursuant to Collocation at the digital signal cross connect, Main Distribution Frame or other suitable frame or panel between (i) the Collocating Party's equipment and (ii) the equipment or facilities of the Housing Party.

1.18 "Customer" means a third-party residence or business subscriber to Telecommunications Services provided by either of the Parties.

1.19 "Dialing Parity" is As Defined in the Act.

1.20 "Digital Signal Level" means one of several transmission rates in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

1.21 "Digital Signal Level 0" or "DS0" means the 64 Kbps zero-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy.

1.22 "Digital Signal Level 1" or "DS1" means the 1.544 Mbps first-level signal in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS1 is the initial level of multiplexing.

1.23 "Digital Signal Level 3" or "DS3" means the 44.736 Mbps third-level in the time-division multiplex hierarchy. In the time-division multiplexing hierarchy of the telephone network, DS3 is defined as the third level of multiplexing.

1.24 "Exchange Access" is As Defined in the Act.

1.25. "Exchange Message Record" or "EMR" means the standard used for exchange of telecommunications message information among Local Exchange Carriers for billable, non-billable, sample, settlement, and study data. EMR format is contained in BR-010-200-010 CRIS Exchange Message Record, a Bell Communications Research, Inc. ("Bellcore") document that defines industry standards for Exchange Message Records.

1.26 [Reserved]

1.27 "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.

1.28 "HDSL" or "High-Bit Rate Digital Subscriber Line" means a transmission technology which transmits up to 784 kbps simultaneously in both directions on a two-wire channel using a 2 Binary / 1 Quaternary ("2B1Q") line code.

1.29 "Independent Telephone Company" or "ITC" means any entity other than BA which, with respect to its operations within Virginia, is an "Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier" As Described in the Act.

1.30 "Information Service Traffic" means Local Traffic or IntraLATA Toll Traffic which originates on a Telephone Exchange Service line and which is addressed to an information service provided over a Party's information services platform.

1.31 "Integrated Digital Loop Carrier" means a subscriber loop carrier system which integrates within the switch at a DS1 level that is twenty-four (24) loop transmission paths combined into a 1.544 Mbps digital signal.

1.32. "Integrated Services Digital Network" or "ISDN" means a switched network service providing end-to-end digital connectivity for the simultaneous transmission of voice and data. Basic Rate Interface-ISDN ("BRI-ISDN") provides for digital transmission of two 64 kbps bearer channels and one 16 kbps data and signaling channel (2B+D). Primary Rate Interface-ISDN ("PRI-ISDN") provides for digital transmission of twenty three (23) 64 kbps bearer channels and one 16 kbps data and signaling channel (23 B+D).

1.33 "Interconnection" is as Described in the Act, and means the connection of separate pieces of equipment or transmission facilities within, between, or among networks. The architecture of Interconnection may include, but is not limited to, Collocation Arrangements, entrance facilities, and Mid-Span Meet arrangements.

1.34 "Interexchange Carrier" or "IXC" means a carrier that provides, directly or indirectly, interLATA or intraLATA Telephone Toll Services.

1.35 "Interim Number Portability" or "INP" means the use of existing and available call routing, forwarding, and addressing capabilities (e.g. remote call forwarding) to enable a Customer to receive Telephone Exchange Service provided by any Local Exchange Carrier operating within the exchange area with which the Customer's telephone number(s) is associated, without having to change the telephone number presently assigned to the Customer and regardless of whether the Customer's chosen Local Exchange Carrier is the carrier that originally assigned the number to the Customer.

1.36 "InterLATA" is As Defined in the Act.

1.37 "IntraLATA Toll Traffic" means those intraLATA calls that are not defined as Local Traffic in this Agreement.

1.38 "Line Side" means an End Office Switch connection that provides transmission, switching and optional features suitable for Customer connection to the public switched network, including loop start supervision, ground start supervision, and signaling for basic rate ISDN service.

1.39. "Line Status Verification" or "LSV" means an operator request for a status check on the line of a called party. The request is made by one Party's operator to an operator of the other Party. The verification of the status check is provided to the requesting operator.

1.40 "Local Access and Transport Area" or "LATA" is As Defined in the Act.

1.41 "Local Exchange Carrier" or "LEC" is As Defined in the Act. The Parties to this Agreement are or will shortly become Local Exchange Carriers.

1.42. "Local Serving Wire Center" means a Wire Center that (i) serves the area in which the other Party's or a third party's Wire Center, aggregation point, point of termination, or point of presence is located, or any Wire Center in the LATA in which the other Party's Wire Center, aggregation point, point of termination or point of presence is located in which the other Party has established a Collocation Arrangement or is purchasing an entrance facility, and (ii) has the necessary multiplexing capabilities for providing transport services.

1.43 "Local Telephone Number Portability" or "LTNP" means "number portability" As Defined in the Act.

1.44 "Local Traffic," means traffic that is originated by a Customer of one Party on that Party's network and terminates to a Customer of the other Party on that other Party's network, within a given local calling area, or expanded area service ("EAS") area, as defined in BA's effective Customer tariffs. Local Traffic does not include traffic originated or terminated by a commercial mobile radio service carrier.

1.45. "Main Distribution Frame" or "MDF" means the primary point at which outside plant facilities terminate within a Wire Center, for interconnection to other telecommunications facilities within the Wire Center.

1.46. "MECAB" means the Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) document prepared by the Billing Committee of the Ordering and Billing Forum ("OBF"), which functions under the auspices of the Carrier Liaison Committee ("CLC") of the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions ("ATIS"). The MECAB document, published by Bellcore as Special Report SR-BDS-000983, contains the recommended guidelines for the billing of an Exchange Access service provided by two or more LECs, or by one LEC in two or more states, within a single LATA.

1.47 "MECOD" means the Multiple Exchange Carriers Ordering and Design (MECOD) Guidelines for Access Services - Industry Support Interface, a document developed by the Ordering/Provisioning Committee under the auspices of OBF. The MECOD document, published by Bellcore as Special Report SR-STS-002643, establishes methods for processing orders for Exchange Access service which is to be provided by two or more LECs.

1.48 "Meet-Point Billing" or "MPB" means an arrangement whereby two or more LECs jointly provide to a third party the transport element of a Switched Exchange Access Service to one

of the LECs' End Office Switches, with each LEC receiving an appropriate share of the transport element revenues as defined by their effective Exchange Access tariffs. "Meet-Point Billing Traffic" means traffic that is subject to an effective Meet-Point Billing arrangement.

1.49. "Mid-Span Meet" means an Interconnection architecture whereby two carriers' fiber transmission facilities meet at a mutually agreed-upon Interconnection point.

1.50 "Multiple Bill/Single Tariff" or "Multiple Bill/Multiple Tariff" means the MPB method whereby each LEC prepares and renders its own meet point bill in accordance with its own Tariff(s) for the portion of the jointly-provided Switched Exchange Access Service which the LEC provides.

1.51 "Network Element" is As Defined in the Act.

1.52 "Network Element Bona Fide Request" means the process described on Exhibit B that prescribes the terms and conditions relating to a Party's request that the other Party provide a Network Element not otherwise provided by the terms of this Agreement.

1.53 "North American Numbering Plan" or "NANP" means the numbering plan used in the United States that also serves Canada, Bermuda, Puerto Rico and certain Caribbean Islands. The NANP format is a 10-digit number that consists of a 3-digit NPA code (commonly referred to as the area code), followed by a 3-digit NXX code and 4-digit line number.

1.54. "Numbering Plan Area" or "NPA" is also sometimes referred to as an area code. There are two general categories of NPAs, "Geographic NPAs" and "Non-Geographic NPAs." A Geographic NPA is associated with a defined geographic area, and all telephone numbers bearing such NPA are associated with services provided within that geographic area. A Non-Geographic NPA, also known as a "Service Access Code" or "SAC Code," is typically associated with a specialized telecommunications service which may be provided across multiple geographic NPA areas; 800, 900, 700, 500 and 888 are examples of Non-Geographic NPAs.

1.55 "NXX," "NXX Code," or "End Office Code" means the three digit switch entity indicator (i.e. the first three digits of a seven digit telephone number).

1.56 "Permanent Number Portability" or "PNP" means the use of a database or other technical solution that comports with regulations issued by the FCC to provide LTNP for all customers and service providers.

1.57 "Port Element" or "Port" means a line card (or equivalent) and associated peripheral equipment on an End Office Switch which serves as the Interconnection between individual loops or individual Customer trunks and the switching components of an End Office Switch and the associated switching functionality in that End Office Switch. Each Port is typically associated with one (or more) telephone number(s) which serves as the Customer's network address.

1.58 "Rate Center Area" or "Exchange Area" means the specific geographic point and corresponding geographic area which has been identified by a given LEC as being associated with a particular NPA-NXX code assigned to the LEC for its provision of Telephone Exchange Services. The Rate Center Area is the exclusive geographic area which the LEC has identified as the area within which it will provide Telephone Exchange Services bearing the particular NPA-NXX designation associated with the specific Rate Center Area. A "Rate Center Point" is a specific geographic point, defined by a V&H coordinate, located within the Rate Center Area and used to measure distance for the purpose of billing Customers for distance-sensitive Telephone Exchange Services and Toll Traffic.

1.59 "Rate Demarcation Point" means the point of minimum penetration at the Customer's premises or other point, as defined in a Party's Tariffs, where network access recurring charges and LEC responsibility ends and beyond which Customer responsibility begins.

1.60 "Rating Point" or "Routing Point" means a specific geographic point identified by a specific V&H coordinate. The Rating Point is used to route inbound traffic to specified NPA-NXXs and to calculate mileage measurements for distance-sensitive transport charges of switched access services. Pursuant to Bellcore Practice BR-795-100-100, the Rating Point may be an End Office location, or a "LEC Consortium Point of Interconnection." Pursuant to that same Bellcore Practice, examples of the latter shall be designated by a common language location identifier (CLLI) code with (x)KD in positions 9, 10, 11, where (x) may be any alphanumeric A-Z or 0-9. The Rating Point/Routing Point must be located within the LATA in which the corresponding NPA-NXX is located. However, the Rating Point/Routing Point associated with each NPA-NXX need not be the same as the corresponding Rate Center Point, nor must it be located within the corresponding Rate Center Area, nor must there be a unique and separate Rating Point corresponding to each unique and separate Rate Center.

1.61 "Reciprocal Compensation" is As Described in the Act, and refers to the payment arrangements that recover costs incurred for the transport and termination of Local Traffic originating on one Party's network and terminating on the other Party's network.

1.62 "Service Control Point" or "SCP" means the node in the common channel signaling network to which informational requests for service handling, such as routing, are directed and processed. The SCP is a real time database system that, based on a query from a service switching point and via a Signaling Transfer Point, performs subscriber or application-specific service logic, and then sends instructions back to the SSP on how to continue call processing.

1.63 "Signaling Transfer Point" or "STP" means a specialized switch that provides SS7 network access and performs SS7 message routing and screening.

1.64 "Switched Access Detail Usage Data" means a category 1101XX record as defined in the EMR Bellcore Practice BR-010-200-010.

1.65 "Switched Access Summary Usage Data" means a category 1150XX record as defined in the EMR Bellcore Practice BR-010-200-010.

1.66 "Switched Exchange Access Service" means the offering of transmission and switching services for the purpose of the origination or termination of Toll Traffic. Switched Exchange Access Services include but may not be limited to: Feature Group A, Feature Group B, Feature Group D, 700 access, 800 access, 888 access, and 900 access.

1.67 "Synchronous Optical Network" or "SONET" means an optical interface standard that allows inter-networking of transmission products from multiple vendors. The base rate is 51.84 Mbps (OC-1/STS-1) and higher rates are direct multiples of the base rate, up to 13.22 Gpbs.

1.68 "Tariff" means any applicable federal or state tariff of a Party, or standard agreement or other document that sets forth the generally available terms and conditions under which a Party offers a particular service, facility, or arrangement.

1.69 "Technically Feasible Point" is As Described in the Act.

1.70 "Telecommunications" is As Defined in the Act.

1.71 "Telecommunications Act" means the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and any rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

1.72 "Telecommunications Carrier" is As Defined in the Act.

1.73 "Telecommunications Service" is As Defined in the Act.

1.74 "Telephone Exchange Service," sometimes also referred to as "Exchange Service," is As Defined in the Act. Telephone Exchange Service generally provides the Customer with a telephonic connection to, and a unique telephone number address on, the public switched telecommunications network, and enables such Customer to place or receive calls to all other stations on the public switched telecommunications network.

1.75. "Toll Traffic" means traffic that is originated by a Customer of one Party on that Party's network and terminates to a Customer of the other Party on that Party's network and is not Local Traffic or Ancillary Traffic. Toll Traffic may be either "IntraLATA Toll Traffic" or "InterLATA Toll Traffic," depending on whether the originating and terminating points are within the same LATA.

1.76 "Transit Traffic" means any traffic that originates from or terminates at Starpower's network, "transits" BA's network substantially unchanged, and terminates to or originates from a third carrier's network, as the case may be. "Transit Traffic Service" provides Starpower with the ability to use its connection to a BA Access Tandem Switch for the delivery of calls which originate or terminate with Starpower and terminate to or originate from a carrier other than BA, such as another CLEC, a LEC other than BA, or a wireless carrier. In these cases, neither the originating nor terminating Customer is a Customer of BA. This service is provided through BA's

Access Tandem Switches. "Transit Traffic" and "Transit Traffic Service" do not include or apply to traffic that is subject to an effective Meet-Point Billing arrangement.

1.77 "Trunk Side" means a Central Office Switch connection that is capable of, and has been programmed to treat the circuit as, connecting to another switching entity (e.g. another carrier's network). Trunk Side connections offer those transmission and signaling features appropriate for the connection of switching entities.

1.78 "Unbundled Local Loop Element" or "ULL" means a transmission path that extends from a Main Distribution Frame, DSX-panel, or functionally comparable piece of equipment in the Customer's serving End Office to the Rate Demarcation Point (or network interface device (NID) if installed) in or at a Customer's premises. The actual loop transmission facilities used to provide an ULL may utilize any of several technologies.

1.79 "Verification with Call Interruption" or "VCI" means a service that may be requested and provided when Line Status Verification has determined that a line is busy due to an ongoing call. VCI is an operator interruption of that ongoing call to inform the called party that a calling party is seeking to complete his or her call to the called party.

1.80 "Voice Grade" means either an analog signal of 300 to 3000 Hz or a digital signal of 56/64 kilobits per second. When referring to digital voice grade service (a 56/64 kbps channel), the terms "DS-0" or "sub-DS-1" may also be used.

1.81 "Wire Center" means a building or portion thereof in which a Party has the exclusive right of occupancy and which serves as a Routing Point for Switched Exchange Access Service.

2.0 INTERPRETATION AND CONSTRUCTION.

2.1 This Agreement is entered into pursuant to Section 252(i) of the Act and is based upon the Interconnection Agreement (and amendments thereto) entered into between MFS Intelenet of Virginia, Inc. and BA dated July 16, 1996 and revised on July 29, 1997, for the Commonwealth of Virginia (the "Separate Agreement"). Such Separate Agreement contains provisions that are identical in all material respects to provisions of this Agreement (the "Identical Provisions"). The Parties agree that if any of the Identical Provisions is subsequently amended, then either Party may, at its sole option, avail itself of any such amendment by providing written notice to the other Party; except that neither Party may, without the consent of the other Party, avail itself of any amendment that would result in the other Party's being denied any form of Interconnection, access to unbundled Network Elements, retail telecommunications service for resale, or any other service or facility that is available under this Agreement (prior to such amendment) and that the first Party is required by the Act (as determined by the parties to the Separate Agreement at the time of such amendment) to make available to other telecommunications carriers upon request. In such instances, the Parties agree to cooperate in effecting the same amendment to the corresponding

provisions contained in this Agreement, which amendment shall be effective from the date of written notice by the availing Party.

2.2 All references to Sections, Exhibits and Schedules shall be deemed to be references to Sections of, and Exhibits and Schedules to, this Agreement unless the context shall otherwise require. The headings used in this Agreement are inserted for convenience of reference only and are not intended to be a part of or to affect the meaning of this Agreement. Unless the context shall otherwise require, any reference to any agreement, other instrument (including BA or other third party offerings, guides or practices), statute, regulation, rule or tariff is to such agreement, instrument, statute, regulation, or rule or tariff as amended and supplemented from time to time (and, in the case of a statute, regulation, rule or tariff, to any successor provision).

2.3 Subject to the terms set forth in Section 20, each Party hereby incorporates by reference those provisions of its tariffs that govern the provision of any of the services or facilities provided hereunder. If any provision of this Agreement and an applicable tariff cannot be reasonably construed or interpreted to avoid conflict, the Parties agree to negotiate in good faith to reconcile and resolve such conflict. If any provision contained in this main body of the Agreement and any Exhibit hereto cannot be reasonably construed or interpreted to avoid conflict, the provision contained in this main body of the Agreement shall prevail. The fact that a condition, right, obligation, or other term appears in this Agreement but not in any such tariff shall not be interpreted as, or be deemed grounds for finding, a conflict for purposes of this Section 2.

3.0 INTERCONNECTION ACTIVATION DATES AND IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE.

3.1 Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, each Party shall exercise its best efforts to adhere to the Interconnection Activation Dates and Network Implementation Schedule set forth in Schedule 3.0, and to provide fully operational service predominantly over its own Telephone Exchange Service facilities to business and residential Customers upon the achievement of the milestones in said Schedule for each listed LATA in Virginia. For purposes of this Agreement, Starpower's service in Virginia shall be considered provided "predominantly over its own Telephone Exchange Service facilities" if Starpower uses its own Central Office Switch(es) (as opposed to resale of another carrier's Telephone Exchange Service or Ports) to serve the majority of its Telephone Exchange Service Customers, its own interoffice transport facilities for the majority of its interoffice transport needs, and its own local loops (or functional equivalent), in addition to resale of other carriers' Telephone Exchange Service or ULLs, to serve its Telephone Exchange Service Customers.

3.2 Schedule 3.0 may be revised and supplemented from time to time upon the mutual agreement of the Parties to reflect the intention of the Parties to interconnect in additional LATAs pursuant to subsection 4.4 by attaching one or more supplementary schedules to Schedule 3.0. The Parties stipulate and agree that the performance of the terms of this Agreement will satisfy BA's obligation to provide Interconnection under Section 251 of the Act, and the requirements of the Competitive Checklist, under Section 271 of the Act. Starpower represents that

it is, or intends to become, a provider of Telephone Exchange Service to residential and business subscribers offered exclusively over its own Telephone Exchange Service facilities or predominantly over its own Telephone Exchange Service facilities in combination with the resale of the Telecommunications Services of other carriers.

4.0 INTERCONNECTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(c)(2)

The types of Traffic to be exchanged under this Agreement shall be Local Traffic, IntraLATA Toll (and InterLATA Toll, as applicable) Traffic, Transit Traffic, Meet Point Billing Traffic, and Ancillary Traffic. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Interconnection of the Parties facilities and equipment for the transmission and routing of Local Traffic and Toll Traffic pursuant to this Section 4 shall be established on or before the corresponding "Interconnection Activation Date" shown for each such LATA within Virginia on Schedule 3.0. Both Schedule 3.0 and Schedule 4.0 may be revised and supplemented from time to time upon the mutual agreement of the Parties to reflect Interconnection in additional LATAs in Virginia pursuant to subsection 4.4 by attaching one or more supplementary addenda to such Schedules.

4.1 Scope

4.1.1 Section 4 describes the architecture for Interconnection of the Parties' facilities and equipment over which the Parties shall configure the following separate and distinct trunk groups:

Traffic Exchange Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating Local Traffic and IntraLATA Toll Traffic between their respective Telephone Exchange Service customers pursuant to Section 251 (c)(2) of the Act, in accordance with Section 5 below;

Access Toll Connecting Trunks for the transmission and routing of Exchange Access traffic between Starpower Telephone Exchange Service customers and purchasers of BA's Switched Exchange Access Service via a BA Access Tandem, pursuant to Section 251(c)(2) of the Act, in accordance with Section 6 below;

Information Services Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating Information Services Traffic in accordance with Section 7 below;

LSV/VCI Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating LSV/VCI traffic, in accordance with Section 7 below;

911/E911 Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating E911/911 traffic, in accordance with Section 7 below;

Directory Assistance Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating directory assistance traffic, in accordance with subsection 19.4 below; and

Operator services (call completion) Trunks for the transmission and routing of terminating call completion traffic, in accordance with subsection 19.4 below.

4.1.2 The SONET interconnection arrangement described in subsection 4.2 shall be (i) used only for the termination of Local Traffic and IntraLATA Toll Traffic until such time as the Parties have agreed to appropriate compensation arrangements relating to the exchange of other types of traffic over such system, and (ii) subject to the Parties' reaching agreement on an appropriate compensation arrangement in the event either Party will be providing or utilizing (in terms of minutes of use) significantly more than one-half of the SONET facility. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, the SONET system described herein shall not be used to exchange InterLATA Toll Traffic. Until the SONET system has been established by the Parties in accordance with subsection 4.3 and this subsection 4.1.2, the Parties agree to adopt an initial interconnection architecture for the exchange of Local Traffic and Toll (IntraLATA and InterLATA) Traffic.

4.1.3 To the extent required by Section 251 of the Act, the Parties represent that the arrangements provided in subsections 4.2 and 4.3 of this Agreement provide for Interconnection to each other's networks at any technically feasible point. For the purposes of this Agreement, the Parties agree that Interconnection for the transport and termination of traffic may take place, in the case of BA, at a terminating End Office, an Access Tandem, a Local Serving Wire Center and/or other points as specified herein, and, in the case of Starpower, at a node or Central Office and/or other points as specified herein (collectively, the "Interconnection Points" or "IPs").

4.1.4 The Parties shall establish physical interconnection points at the available IPs at the locations designated in Schedule 4.0. The mutually agreed-upon IPs on the Starpower network at which Starpower will provide transport and termination of traffic shall be designated as the Starpower Interconnection Points ("S-IPs"); the mutually agreed-upon IPs on the BA network shall be designated as the BA Interconnection Points ("BA-IPs"), provided that, for the purpose of charging for the transport of traffic from the BA-IP to the S-IP in any given LATA, the S-IP shall be no further than an entrance facility away from the BA-IP in such LATA. The Parties may by mutual agreement establish additional interconnection points at any technically feasible points consistent with the Act.

4.2 Physical Architecture. In each LATA identified on Schedule 4.0, Starpower and Bell Atlantic shall jointly engineer and operate a diverse Synchronous Optical Network ("SONET") transmission system by which they shall interconnect their networks pursuant to the joint network reconfiguration and grooming plan specified in subsection 10.1 ("Joint Grooming Plan"), and according to the following specifications:

4.2.1 The SONET system shall be used to deliver appropriate traffic to a mutually agreed-upon Interconnection Point on each Party's network.

4.2.2 The SONET transmission system in each LATA shall be configured substantially as illustrated in Schedule 4.2 and pursuant to the Joint Grooming Plan, or as otherwise mutually agreed. The Parties shall agree upon which Party or Parties shall be responsible for procuring, installing, and maintaining the agreed-upon Optical Line Terminating Multiplexor ("OLTM") equipment, fiber optic facilities and other equipment pursuant to the Joint Grooming Plan, as illustrated in that Schedule.

4.2.3 The physical interface of Starpower's and BA's facilities necessary to effect SONET transmission shall be at the optical level via a Mid-Span Meet or other comparable means, or as otherwise mutually agreed.

4.3 Initial Architecture

4.3.1 The Parties agree to provide initial interconnection arrangements utilizing electrical handoffs, substantially as illustrated in Schedule 4.3, for a period of no more than eighteen (18) months after the later of the Effective Date and the LATA Start Date set forth for the LATA in Schedule 3.0; provided, however, that such initial interconnection arrangements shall continue until (i) facilities suitable for the SONET arrangements described in subsection 4.2 are established by each of the Parties in its own sole discretion in the LATA at the mutually agreed-upon SONET meet points and made available, and (ii) the Parties have agreed upon fully compatible OLTM equipment for use with such facilities.

4.3.2 The Parties agree to utilize the S-IP and BA-IP in each LATA as designated in Schedule 4.0 as the points from which each Party will provide the transport and termination of traffic.

4.3.3 Starpower shall provide its own facilities for the delivery of traffic to a collocation arrangement established at the BA-IP pursuant to Section 13. Bell Atlantic shall provide transport and termination of the traffic beyond the BA-IP.

4.3.4 BA shall purchase an Starpower entrance facility (and any necessary multiplexing) from the BA-IP to the S-IP for the delivery of traffic to the S-IP. Alternatively, BA may choose to provide its own facilities to a collocation arrangement established at the S-IP pursuant to Section 13. Starpower shall provide transport and termination of the traffic beyond the S-IP.

4.3.5 Under this initial architecture described in this subsection 4.3, either Party may utilize the Traffic Exchange Trunks for the termination of its InterLATA Toll Traffic in accordance with the terms contained in Section 5 below and pursuant to the other Party's Switched Exchange Access Service tariffs. The other Party's Switched Exchange Access Service rates shall apply to such Traffic. Such InterLATA Toll Traffic may not be routed over the trunk groups under the SONET architecture described in subsection 4.2, however, unless specifically agreed to by the Parties.

4.4 Interconnection in Additional LATAs

4.4.1 If Starpower determines to offer Telephone Exchange Services in any LATA not listed in Schedule 3.0 in which BA also offers Telephone Exchange Services, Starpower shall provide written notice to BA of the need to establish Interconnection in such LATA pursuant to this Agreement.

4.4.2 The notice provided in subsection 4.4.1 shall include (i) the initial Routing Point Starpower has designated in the new LATA; (ii) Starpower's requested Interconnection Activation Date (and related milestone dates in accordance with the format in Schedule 3.0); and (iii) a non-binding forecast of Starpower's trunking requirements.

4.4.3 Unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties, the Parties shall designate the Wire Center Starpower has identified as its initial Routing Point in the LATA as the S-IP in that LATA and shall designate a mutually agreed BA Local Serving Wire Center that houses an Access Tandem Office within the LATA nearest to the S-IP (as measured in airline miles utilizing the V&H coordinates method) as the BA-IP in that LATA, provided that, for the purpose of charging for the transport of traffic from the BA-IP to the S-IP, the S-IP shall be no further than an entrance facility away from the BA-IP.

4.4.4 The Parties shall agree upon an addendum to Schedule 3.0 to reflect the schedule applicable to each new LATA requested by Starpower; provided, however, that unless agreed by the Parties, the Interconnection Activation Date in a new LATA shall not be earlier than forty-five (45) days after receipt by BA of all complete and accurate trunk orders and routing information. Within ten (10) business days of BA's receipt of Starpower's notice, BA and Starpower shall confirm the BA-IP, the S-IP and the Interconnection Activation Date for the new LATA by attaching an addendum to Schedule 3.0.

4.5 Interconnection Points for Different Types of Traffic. Each Party shall make available Interconnection Points and facilities for routing of traffic from those Interconnection Points as designated in Schedule 4.5. Any additional traffic that is not covered in Schedule 4.5 shall be subject to separate negotiations between the Parties, except that (i) either Party may deliver traffic of any type or character to the other Party for termination as long as the delivering Party pays the receiving Party's then current Switched Exchange Access rates for such traffic, and (ii) upon a bona fide request from either Party, the Parties will exercise all reasonable efforts to conclude an agreement covering the exchange of such traffic.

5.0 TRANSMISSION AND ROUTING OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGE SERVICE TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(c)(2)

5.1 Scope of Traffic. Section 5 prescribes parameters for trunk groups (the "Traffic Exchange Trunks") to be effected over the Interconnections specified in Section 4.0 for the transmission and routing of Local Traffic and IntraLATA Toll Traffic between the Parties' respective Telephone Exchange Service Customers.

5.2 Trunk Group Connections and Ordering

5.2.1 Trunk group connections will be made at a DS-1 level or higher for exchange of Local and Toll Traffic. Higher speed connections shall be made, when and where available, in accordance with the Joint Grooming Plan prescribed in Section 10. Ancillary Traffic trunk groups may be made below a DS-1 level, as may be agreed to by the Parties.

5.2.2 Each Party will identify its Carrier Identification Code, a three or four digit numeric obtained from Bellcore or the applicable North American Numbering Plan Administrator, to the other Party when ordering a trunk group.

5.3 Additional Switching System Hierarchy and Trunking Requirements

5.3.1 For purposes of routing Starpower traffic to BA, the subtending arrangements between BA Access Tandem Switches and BA End Office Switches shall be the same as the Access Tandem/End Office subtending arrangements BA maintains for the routing of its own or other carriers' traffic. For purposes of routing BA traffic to Starpower, the subtending arrangements between Starpower Access Tandem Switches (or functional equivalent) and Starpower End Office Switches (or functional equivalent) shall be the same as the Access Tandem/End Office subtending arrangements (or functional equivalent) which Starpower maintains for the routing of its own or other carriers' traffic.

5.4 Signaling

Each Party will provide the other Party with access to its databases and associated signaling necessary for the routing and completion of the other Party's traffic in accordance with the provisions contained in Section 17 below.

5.5 Grades of Service

The Parties shall initially engineer and shall jointly monitor and enhance all trunk groups consistent with the Joint Grooming Plan as set forth in Section 10.

5.6 Measurement and Billing

5.6.1 For billing purposes, each Party shall pass Calling Party Number ("CPN") information on each call carried over the Traffic Exchange Trunks, wherever technically feasible. At such time as either Party has the ability, as the Party receiving the traffic, to use such CPN information to classify on an automated basis traffic delivered by the other Party as either Local Traffic or Toll Traffic, such receiving Party shall bill the originating Party the Local Traffic termination rates, Intrastate Exchange Access rates, or Interstate Exchange Access rates

applicable to each minute of Traffic for which CPN is passed, as provided in Exhibit A and applicable Tariffs.

5.6.2 If, under the circumstances set forth in subsection 5.6.1, it is not technically feasible for the originating Party to pass CPN on up to ten percent (10%) of calls, the receiving Party shall bill the originating Party the Local Traffic termination rates, Intrastate Exchange Access rates, or Interstate Exchange Access rates applicable to each minute of traffic, as provided in Exhibit A and applicable Tariffs, for which CPN is passed. For the remaining up to ten percent (10%) of calls without CPN information, the receiving Party shall bill the originating Party for such traffic as Local Traffic termination rates, Intrastate Exchange Access rates, or Interstate Exchange Access rates applicable to each minute of traffic, as provided in Exhibit A and applicable Tariffs, in direct proportion to the minutes of use of calls passed with CPN information.

5.6.3 If it is not technically feasible for the originating Party to pass CPN on more than ten percent (10%) of calls, or if the receiving Party lacks the ability to use CPN information to classify on an automated basis traffic delivered by the other Party as either Local Traffic or Toll Traffic, and the originating Party chooses to combine Local and Toll Traffic on the same trunk group, it will supply an auditable Percent Local Use ("PLU") report quarterly, based on the previous three months' traffic, and applicable to the following three months. If the originating Party also chooses to combine Interstate and Intrastate Toll Traffic on the same trunk group, it will supply an auditable Percent Interstate Use ("PIU") report quarterly, based on the previous three months' terminating traffic, and applicable to the following three months. In lieu of the foregoing PLU and/or PIU reports, the Parties may agree to provide and accept reasonable surrogate measures for an agreed-upon interim period.

5.6.4 Measurement of billing minutes for purposes of determining terminating compensation shall be in conversation seconds.

5.7 Reciprocal Compensation Arrangements – Section 251(b)(5).

Reciprocal Compensation arrangements address the transport and termination of Local Traffic. BA's delivery of Traffic to Starpower that originated with a third carrier is addressed in subsection 7.3. Where Starpower delivers Traffic (other than Local Traffic) to BA, except as may be set forth herein or subsequently agreed to by the Parties, Starpower shall pay BA the same amount that such carrier would have paid BA for termination of that Traffic at the location the Traffic is delivered to BA by Starpower. Compensation for the transport and termination of traffic not specifically addressed in this subsection 5.7 shall be as provided elsewhere in this Agreement, or if not so provided, as required by the Tariffs of the Party transporting and/or terminating the traffic.

5.7.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to limit either Party's ability to designate the areas within which that Party's Customers may make calls which that Party rates as "local" in its Customer Tariffs.

5.7.2 The Parties shall compensate each other for transport and termination of Local Traffic in an equal and symmetrical manner at the rates provided in the Detailed Schedule of Itemized Charges (Exhibit A hereto) or, if not set forth therein, in the applicable Tariff(s) of the terminating Party, as the case may be. These rates are to be applied at the S-IP for traffic delivered by BA, and at the BA-IP for traffic delivered by Starpower. No additional charges, including port or transport charges, shall apply for the termination of Local Traffic delivered to the BA-IP or the S-IP, except as set forth in Exhibit A. When Local Traffic is terminated over the same trunks as Toll Traffic, any port or transport or other applicable access charges related to the Toll Traffic shall be prorated to be applied only to the Toll Traffic.

5.7.3 The Reciprocal Compensation arrangements set forth in this Agreement are not applicable to Switched Exchange Access Service. All Switched Exchange Access Service and all Toll Traffic shall continue to be governed by the terms and conditions of the applicable federal and state Tariffs.

5.7.4 Compensation for transport and termination of all Traffic which has been subject to performance of INP by one Party for the other Party pursuant to Section 14 shall be as specified in subsection 14.5.

5.7.5 The designation of Traffic as Local or Toll for purposes of compensation shall be based on the actual originating and terminating points of the complete end-to-end call, regardless of the carrier(s) involved in carrying any segment of the call.

5.7.6 Each Party reserves the right to measure and audit all Traffic to ensure that proper rates are being applied appropriately. Each Party agrees to provide the necessary Traffic data or permit the other Party's recording equipment to be installed for sampling purposes in conjunction with any such audit.

5.7.7 The Parties will engage in settlements of alternate-billed calls (e.g. collect, calling card, and third-party billed calls) originated or authorized by their respective Customers in Virginia in accordance with the terms of an appropriate billing services agreement for intraLATA intrastate alternate-billed calls or such other arrangement as may be agreed to by the Parties.

6.0 TRANSMISSION AND ROUTING OF EXCHANGE ACCESS TRAFFIC PURSUANT TO 251(c)(2).

6.1 Scope of Traffic

Section 6 prescribes parameters for certain trunks to be established over the Interconnections specified in Section 4 for the transmission and routing of traffic between Starpower Telephone Exchange Service Customers and Interexchange Carriers ("Access Toll Connecting Trunks"). This includes casually-dialed (10XXX and 101XXXX) traffic.

6.2 Trunk Group Architecture and Traffic Routing

6.2.1 Starpower shall establish Access Toll Connecting Trunks by which it will provide tandem-transported Switched Exchange Access Services to Interexchange Carriers to enable such Interexchange Carriers to originate and terminate traffic to and from Starpower's Customers.

6.2.2 Access Toll Connecting Trunks shall be used solely for the transmission and routing of Exchange Access to allow Starpower's Customers to connect to or be connected to the interexchange trunks of any Interexchange Carrier which is connected to an BA Access Tandem.

6.2.3 The Access Toll Connecting Trunks shall be two-way trunks connecting an End Office Switch Starpower utilizes to provide Telephone Exchange Service and Switched Exchange Access in a given LATA to an Access Tandem BA utilizes to provide Exchange Access in such LATA.

6.2.4 The Parties shall jointly determine which BA Access Tandem(s) will be subtended by each Starpower End Office Switch. Starpower's End Office switch shall subtend the BA Access Tandem that would have served the same rate center on BA's network. Alternative configurations will be discussed as part of the Joint Plan.

6.3 Meet-Point Billing Arrangements

6.3.1 Starpower and BA will establish Meet-Point Billing arrangements in order to provide a common transport option to Switched Access Services Customers via an Access Tandem Switch in accordance with the Meet-Point Billing guidelines contained in the OBF's MECAB and MECOD documents, except as modified herein, and BA's Virginia Tariff Number 217, Section 2.4.8. The arrangements described in this Section 6 are intended to be used to provide Switched Exchange Access Service that originates and/or terminates on a Telephone Exchange Service that is provided by either Party, where the transport component of the Switched Exchange Access Service is routed through a Tandem Switch that is provided by BA.

6.3.2 In each LATA, the Parties shall establish MPB arrangements between the applicable Rating Point/BA Local Serving Wire Center combinations.

6.3.3 Interconnection for the MPB arrangement shall occur at the BA-IP in the LATA, unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties.

6.3.4 Starpower and BA will use reasonable efforts, individually and collectively, to maintain provisions in their respective state access tariffs, and/or provisions within the National Exchange Carrier Association ("NECA") tariff No. 4, or any successor Tariff sufficient to reflect the MPB arrangements established pursuant to this Agreement.

6.3.5 Each Party shall implement the "Multiple Bill/Single Tariff" or "Multiple Bill/Multiple Tariff" option, as appropriate, in order to bill an IXC for the portion of the jointly provided telecommunications service provided by that Party.

6.3.6 The rate elements to be billed by each Party are as set forth in Schedule 6.3. The actual rate values for each Party's affected access service rate element shall be the rates contained in that Party's own effective federal and state access tariffs, or other document that contains the terms under which that Party's access services are offered. The MPB billing percentages for each Rating Point/BA Local Serving Wire Center combination shall be calculated in accordance with the formula set forth in subsection 6.3.16 below.

6.3.7 Each Party shall provide the other Party with the billing name, billing address, and Carrier Identification Code ("CIC") of the IXC, and identification of the IXC's Local Serving Wire Center in order to comply with the MPB notification process as outlined in the MECAB document via facsimile or such other media as the Parties may agree to.

6.3.8 BA shall provide Starpower with the Switched Access Detail Usage Data (category 1101XX records) on magnetic tape or via such other media as the Parties may agree to, no later than ten (10) business days after the date the usage occurred.

6.3.9 Starpower shall provide BA with the Switched Access Summary Usage Data (category 1150XX records) on magnetic tape or via such other media as the Parties may agree, no later than ten (10) business days after the date of its rendering of the bill to the relevant IXC, which bill shall be rendered no less frequently than monthly.

6.3.10 Each Party shall coordinate and exchange the billing account reference ("BAR") and billing account cross reference ("BACR") numbers or Operating Company Name ("OCN"), as appropriate, for the MPB Service. Each Party shall notify the other if the level of billing or other BAR/BACR elements change, resulting in a new BAR/BACR number, or if the OCN changes.

6.3.11. Errors may be discovered by Starpower, the IXC or BA. Each Party agrees to provide the other Party with notification of any errors it discovers within two (2) business days of the date of such discovery. In the event of a loss of data, both Parties shall cooperate to reconstruct the lost data and, if such reconstruction is not possible, shall accept a reasonable estimate of the lost data based upon prior usage data.

6.3.12 Either Party may request a review or audit of the various components of access recording up to a maximum of two (2) audits per calendar year. All costs associated with each review and audit shall be borne by the requesting Party. Such review or audit shall be conducted subject to confidentiality protection and during regular business hours. A Party may conduct additional audits, at its expense, upon the other Party's consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

6.3.13. Nothing contained in this subsection 6.3. shall create any liability for damages, losses, claims, costs, injuries, expenses or other liabilities whatsoever on the part of either Party (other than as may be set forth in MECAB or in any applicable Tariff).

6.3.14. The Parties shall not charge one another for the services rendered or information provided pursuant to this subsection 6.3.

6.3.15 MPB will apply for all traffic bearing the 500, 900, 800/888 (to the extent provided by an IXC) or any other non-geographic NPA which may be likewise designated for such traffic in the future.

6.3.16 In the event Starpower determines to offer Telephone Exchange Services in another LATA in which BA operates an Access Tandem Switch, BA shall permit and enable Starpower to subtenant the BA Access Tandem Switch(es) designated for the BA End Offices in the area where the Starpower Rating Point(s) associated with the NPA-NXX(s) to/from which the Switched Exchange Access Services are homed. The MPB billing percentages for each new Rating Point/BA Local Serving Wire Center combination shall be calculated according to the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned} a / (a + b) &= \text{Starpower Billing Percentage} \\ &\text{and} \\ b / (a + b) &= \text{BA Billing Percentage} \end{aligned}$$

where:

a = the airline mileage between the Rating Point and the actual point of interconnection for the MPB arrangement; and

b = the airline mileage between the BA Local Serving Wire Center and the actual point of interconnection for the MPB arrangement.

Starpower shall inform BA of the LATA in which it intends to offer Telephone Exchange Services and its calculation of the billing percentages which should apply for such arrangement, as part of the notice required by subsection 4.4.1 above. Within ten (10) business days of Starpower's delivery of notice to BA, BA and Starpower shall confirm the new Rating Point/BA Local Serving Wire Center combination and billing percentages. Nothing in this subsection 6.3.16 shall be construed to limit Starpower's ability to select to interconnect with BA in additional LATAs by means of Interconnection at a Local Serving Wire Center, to the extent that such Interconnection is permitted under this Agreement.

6.4 800/888 Traffic

The following terms shall apply when either Party delivers 800/888 calls to the other Party for completion.

6.4.1. When Starpower delivers untranslated 800/888 calls to BA for completion

- (a) to an IXC, BA shall:
 - (i) Provide a MPB record in an industry standard format to Starpower; and
 - (ii) Bill the IXC the appropriate BA query charge associated with the call.

shall

- (b) as an IntraLATA call to BA or another LEC in the LATA, BA

- (i) Provide a copy record in an industry standard format to Starpower;
 - (ii) Bill Starpower the appropriate BA query charge associated with the call; and
 - (iii) Submit the call records to ITORP for payment by BA or the LEC that is the 800/888 service provider of Starpower's and any intermediate LEC's Tariffed Exchange Access charges and query charges.

6.4.2 When BA delivers 800/888 calls originated by BA's or another LEC's Customers to Starpower for completion

- (a) to Starpower in its capacity as an IXC, BA shall:
 - (i) Bill Starpower the appropriate BA query charge associated with the call; and
 - (ii) Bill Starpower the appropriate FGD Exchange Access charges associated with the call.
- (b) as an IntraLATA call to Starpower in its capacity as a LEC,
 - (i) BA shall submit the appropriate call records to ITORP for payment by Starpower of BA's (and another LEC's, if appropriate) Tariffed Exchange Access charges; and

(ii) Starpower shall pay the originating LEC's appropriate query charge associated with the call.

7.0 TRANSPORT AND TERMINATION OF OTHER TYPES OF TRAFFIC

7.1 Information Services Traffic

The following provisions shall apply only to Starpower-originated Information Services Traffic directed to an information services platform connected to BA's network. At such time as Starpower connects Information Services platforms to its network, the Parties shall agree upon a suitable arrangement for BA-originated Information Services Traffic.

7.1.1 Starpower shall route Information Services Traffic that originates on its own network to the appropriate information services platform(s) connected to BA's network. Starpower will establish a dedicated trunk group to the BA information services serving switch. This trunk group will be utilized to allow Starpower to route information service traffic originated on its network to BA.

7.1.2 Starpower shall provide an electronic file transfer or monthly magnetic tape containing recorded call detail information to BA.

7.1.3 BA shall provide to Starpower via electronic file transfer or magnetic tape or other means as available all necessary information to rate the Information Services Traffic to Starpower's Customers pursuant to the BA's agreements with each information services provider. Information shall be provided in as timely a fashion as practical in order to facilitate record review and reflect actual prices set by the individual information services providers.

7.1.4 Starpower shall bill and collect such information services provider charges and remit the amounts collected to BA less:

- (a) The Information Services Billing and Collection fee set forth in Exhibit A;
and
- (b) An uncollectibles reserve calculated based on the uncollectibles reserve in BA's billing and collection agreement with the applicable information services provider;
and
- (c) Customer adjustments provided by Starpower.

Starpower shall provide to BA sufficient information regarding uncollectibles and Customer adjustments to allow BA to pass through the adjustments to the information services provider, and BA shall pass through such adjustments. However, if the information services provider disputes such adjustments and refuses to accept such adjustments, Starpower shall reimburse BA for all such disputed adjustments. Final resolution regarding all disputed adjustments shall be solely between Starpower and the information services provider.

7.1.5 Nothing in this Agreement shall restrict either Party from offering to its Telephone Exchange Service Customers the ability to block the completion of Information Service Traffic.

7.1.6 The Parties may agree to separate arrangements for the billing and compensation of variable rated (e.g. 970, 540) information services.

7.1.7 The Information Services Traffic addressed herein does not include 555 traffic or similar traffic with AIN service interfaces.

7.2 LSV/VCI Traffic

7.2.1 Each Party shall offer LSV and VCI services to enable its Customers to verify and/or interrupt calls of the other Party's Customers. In such instances, the other Party shall accept and respond to LSV and VCI requests from the operator bureau of the requesting Party. Both the requesting Party (Party A) and the responding Party (Party B) shall perform in accordance with the terms set forth in this subsection 7.2 and pursuant to inter-Party rates to be agreed upon between the Parties.

7.2.2 The Party B operator shall only verify the status of the line (LSV) or interrupt the line to inform the called party that there is a call waiting. The Party B operator will not complete the telephone call of the Customer initiating the LSV/VCI request. The Party B operator will only make one LSV/VCI attempt per Customer operator bureau telephone call, and the applicable charges apply whether or not the called party releases the line.

7.2.3 Each Party's operator bureau shall accept LSV and VCI inquiries from the operator bureau of the other Party in order to allow transparent provision of LSV/VCI Traffic between the Parties' networks.

7.2.4 Each Party shall route LSV/VCI Traffic inquiries over separate direct trunks (and not the Local/IntraLATA/InterLATA Trunks) established between the Parties' respective operator bureaus. Each Party shall offer interconnection for LSV/VCI traffic at its Local Serving Wire Center, operator services Tandem Office subtended by such Local Serving Wire Center, or other mutually agreed point in the LATA. Separate LSV/VCI trunks delivered at the Local Serving Wire Center will be directed to the operator services Tandem Office designated by Party B. Unless otherwise mutually agreed, the Parties shall configure LSV/VCI trunks over the Interconnection architectures in accordance with the terms of Section 4, consistent with the Joint Grooming Plan. Party A shall output the appropriate NPA, ATC Code, and Routing Code (operator code) to Party B.

7.3 Transit Service

7.3.1 Starpower shall exercise all reasonable efforts to enter into a reciprocal local traffic exchange arrangement (either via written agreement or mutual tariffs) with any wireless carrier, ITC, CLEC, or other LEC to which it sends, or from which it receives, local traffic that

transits BA facilities over Traffic Exchange Trunks. If Starpower fails to enter into such an arrangement as quickly as commercially reasonable following the Effective Date and to provide copies thereof to BA, but continues to utilize BA's Transit Service for the exchange of local traffic with such wireless carrier, ITC, CLEC, or other LEC, Starpower shall, in addition to paying the rate set forth in Exhibit A for said Transit Service, pay BA any charges or costs such terminating third party carrier imposes or levies on BA for the delivery or termination of such Traffic, including any switched access charges, plus all reasonable expenses incurred by BA in delivering or terminating such Traffic and/or resulting from Starpower's failure to secure said reciprocal local traffic exchange arrangement. BA will, upon request, provide Starpower with all reasonable cooperation and assistance in obtaining such arrangements. The Parties agree to work cooperatively in appropriate industry fora to promote the adoption of reasonable industry guidelines relating to Transit Traffic.

7.3.2 Meet-Point Billing compensation arrangements as described in subsection 6.3 shall be utilized for compensation for the joint handling of Toll Traffic.

7.3.3 BA expects that most networks involved in Transit Traffic will deliver each call to each involved network with CCS and the appropriate Transactional Capabilities Application Part ("TCAP") message to facilitate full interoperability of those services supported by BA and billing functions. In all cases, each Party shall follow the Exchange Message Record ("EMR") standard and exchange records between the Parties and with the terminating carrier to facilitate the billing process to the originating network.

7.3.4 Transit Traffic shall be routed over the Traffic Exchange Trunks described in Section 5 above.

7.4 911/E911 Arrangements

7.4.1 Starpower will interconnect to the BA 911/E911 selective routers or 911 Tandem Offices, where available, which serve the areas in which Starpower provides Telephone Exchange Services, for the provision of 911/E911 services and for access to all subtending Public Safety Answering Points ("PSAP"). In such situations, BA will provide Starpower with the appropriate CLLI codes and specifications of the Tandem Office serving area. In areas where E911 is not available, Starpower and BA will negotiate arrangements to connect Starpower to the 911 service.

7.4.2 Path and route diverse interconnections for 911/E911 shall be made at the S-IP, the BA-IP, or other points as necessary and mutually agreed, and as required by law or regulation.

7.4.3 Upon request, BA will provide Starpower with the following:

- (a) an electronic interface, when available, through which Starpower shall input and provide a daily update of 911/E911 database information related to appropriate Starpower Customers. Until such time as an electronic interface is available, Starpower

shall provide BA with all appropriate 911 information such as name, address, and telephone number in writing for BA's entry into the 911 database system. Any 911-related data exchanged between the Parties shall conform to the National Emergency Number Association standards;

(b) a file containing the Master Street Address Guide ("MSAG"), as may be updated from time to time, for the exchanges or communities specified;

(c) a return of any Starpower E911 data entry files containing errors, so that Starpower may ensure the accuracy of the Customer records; and

(d) PSAP 911 Tandem information.

7.4.4 In cases where a Customer of one Party elects to discontinue its service and become the Customer of the other Party ("Party B") but desires to retain its original telephone number pursuant to an INP or PNP arrangement, Party B will outpulse the telephone number to which the call has been forwarded (i.e. the Customer's ANI) to the 911 Tandem Office. Party B will also provide the 911 database with both the forwarded number and the directory number, as well as the appropriate address information of the Customer.

7.4.5 BA and Starpower will use their best efforts to facilitate the prompt, robust, reliable and efficient interconnection of Starpower systems to the 911/E911 platforms.

7.4.6 BA and Starpower will work cooperatively to arrange meetings with PSAPs to answer any technical questions the PSAPs, or county or municipal coordinators may have regarding the 911/E911 arrangements. BA shall assist Starpower in identifying the appropriate person in each municipality for the purpose of obtaining the ten-digit subscriber number of each PSAP.

7.4.7 The Parties acknowledge that the provision of INP, until PNP with full 911 compatibility is available, creates a special need to have the Automatic Location Identification ("ALI") screen reflect two number: the "old" number and the "new" number assigned by Starpower. The Parties acknowledge further the objective of including the five character Telephone Company Identification ("TCI") of the company that provides service to the calling line as part of the ALI display. Until such time as TCI is operational, however, BA and Starpower agree to supply and use the three-letter Access Carrier Name Abbreviation ("ACNA") as the carrier identifier.

7.4.8 Starpower will compensate BA for connections to its 911/E911 pursuant to Exhibit A.

7.4.9 Starpower will comply with all applicable rules and regulations pertaining to the provision of 911/E911 services in Virginia.

7.5 Ancillary Traffic Generally Ancillary Traffic that may be terminated at a BA Local Serving Wire Center pursuant to subsection 4.5 above shall be subject to a separate transport charge for transport from the Local Serving Wire Center to the appropriate Tandem Office, as set forth in Exhibit A.

8.0 NUMBER RESOURCES, RATE CENTERS AND RATING POINTS

8.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to limit or otherwise adversely affect in any manner either Party's right to employ or to request and be assigned any Central Office (NXX) Codes pursuant to the Central Office Code Assignment Guidelines, as may be amended from time to time, or to establish, by Tariff or otherwise, Rate Centers and Rating Points corresponding to such NXX codes. Until such time as number administration is provided by a third party, BA shall provide Starpower access to telephone numbers by assigning NXX codes to Starpower in accordance with such Assignment Guidelines.

8.2 It shall be the responsibility of each Party to program and update its own switches and network systems in accordance with the Local Exchange Routing Guide ("LERG") in order to recognize and route traffic to the other Party's assigned NXX codes at all times. Neither Party shall impose any fees or charges whatsoever on the other Party for such activities, except as expressly set forth in this Agreement.

8.3 Unless mandated otherwise by a Commission order, the Rate Center Areas will be the same for each Party. During the term of this Agreement, Starpower shall adopt the Rate Center Areas and Rate Center Points that the Commission has approved for BA, in all areas where BA and Starpower service areas overlap, and Starpower shall assign whole NPA-NXX codes to each Rate Center unless the LEC industry adopts alternative methods of utilizing NXXs in the manner adopted by the NANP.

8.4 Starpower will also designate a Routing Point for each assigned NXX code. Starpower shall designate one location for each Rate Center Area as the Routing Point for the NPA-NXXs associated with that Area, and such Routing Point shall be within the same LATA as the Rate Center Area but not necessarily within the Rate Center Area itself.

8.5 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, nothing in this Agreement is intended to, and nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to, in any way constrain Starpower's choices regarding the size of the local calling area(s) that Starpower may establish for its Customers, which local calling areas may be larger than, smaller than, or identical to, BA's local calling areas.

9.0 NETWORK MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT; OUTAGES

9.1 The Parties will work cooperatively to install and maintain a reliable network. Starpower and BA will exchange appropriate information (e.g., maintenance contact numbers, network information, information required to comply with law enforcement and other security agencies of the Government) to achieve this desired reliability. In addition, the Parties will work cooperatively to apply sound network management principles to alleviate or to prevent congestion.

9.2 Each Party recognizes a responsibility to follow the standards that may be agreed to between the Parties and to employ characteristics and methods of operation that will not interfere with or impair the service or any facilities of the other or any third parties connected with or involved directly in the network of the other.

9.3 Interference or Impairment

If Party A reasonably determines that the characteristics and methods of operation used by Party B will or may interfere with or impair its provision of services, Party A shall have the right to discontinue Interconnection subject, however, to the following:

9.3.1 Party A shall have given Party B ten (10) days' prior written notice of interference or impairment or potential interference or impairment which specifies the time within which Party B is to correct the condition; and,

9.3.2 Party A shall have concurrently provided a copy of the notice provided to Party B under (a) above to the appropriate federal and/or state regulatory bodies.

9.3.3 Notice in accord with subsections 9.3.1 and 9.3.2 above shall not be required in emergencies and Party A may immediately discontinue Interconnection if reasonably necessary to meet its obligations. In such case, however, Party A shall use all reasonable means to notify Party B and the appropriate federal and/or state regulatory bodies.

9.3.4 Upon correction of the interference or impairment, Party A will promptly renew the Interconnection. During such period of discontinuance, there will be no compensation or credit allowance by Party A to Party B for interruptions.

9.4 Repeated or Willful Noncompliance

9.4.1 The Interconnection provided hereunder may be discontinued by either Party upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other for repeated or willful violation of and/or a refusal to comply with this Agreement. The Party discontinuing will notify the appropriate federal and/or state regulatory bodies concurrently with the notice to the other Party of the prospective discontinuance.

9.5 Outage Repair Standard

In the event of an outage or trouble in any arrangement, facility, or service being provided by a Party hereunder, the providing Party will follow procedures for isolating and clearing the outage or trouble that are no less favorable than those that apply to comparable arrangements, facilities, or services being provided by the providing Party to any other carrier whose network is connected to that of the providing Party. Starpower and BA may agree to modify those procedures from time to time based on their experience with comparable Interconnection arrangements with other carriers.

9.6 Notice of Changes – Section 251(c)(5).

If a Party makes a change in its network which it believes will materially affect the interoperability of its network with the other Party's network, the Party making the change shall provide at least ninety (90) days advance written notice of such change to the other Party.

10. JOINT NETWORK RECONFIGURATION AND GROOMING PLAN; AND INSTALLATION, MAINTENANCE, TESTING AND REPAIR.

10.1 Joint Network Reconfiguration and Grooming Plan. Within ninety (90) days of the date the parties first establish Interconnection hereunder, unless the Parties agree to a different date, Starpower and BA shall jointly develop a grooming plan (the "Joint Plan") which shall define and detail, inter alia,

- (a) modifications to the agreement on physical architecture consistent with the guidelines defined in Section 4;
- (b) standards to ensure that Interconnection trunk groups experience a grade of service, availability and quality which is comparable to that achieved on interoffice trunks within BA's network and in accord with all appropriate relevant industry-accepted quality, reliability and availability standards. Trunks provided by either Party for Interconnection services will be engineered using a design blocking objective of B.01;
- (c) the respective duties and responsibilities of the Parties with respect to the administration and maintenance of the trunk groups, including, but not limited to, standards and procedures for notification and discoveries of trunk disconnects;
- (d) disaster recovery provision escalations;
- (e) migration from one-way to two-way Interconnection Trunks upon mutual agreement of the Parties;
- (f) actual meet point locations on the SONET system; and

(g) such other matters as the Parties may agree.

10.2 Installation, Maintenance, Testing and Repair. BA's standard intervals for Feature Group D Switched Exchange Access Services will be used for Interconnection. Starpower shall meet the same intervals for comparable installations, maintenance, joint testing, and repair of its facilities and services associated with or used in conjunction with Interconnection or shall notify BA of its inability to do so and will negotiate such intervals in good faith. The Parties agree that the standards to be used by each Party for isolating and clearing any disconnections and/or other outages or troubles shall be no less favorable than those applicable to comparable arrangements, facilities, or services being provided by such Party to any other carrier whose network is connected to that of the providing Party.

10.3 Forecasting Requirements for Trunk Provisioning. Within sixty (60) days of executing this Agreement, Starpower shall provide BA a one (1) year traffic forecast. This initial forecast will provide the amount of traffic to be delivered to each of BA's End Offices affected by the exchange of traffic. The forecast shall be updated and provided to BA on a quarterly basis, and include Access Carrier Terminal Location (ACTL), traffic type (local/toll, operator services, 911, etc.), code (identifies trunk group), A location/Z location (CLLI codes), interface type (e.g., DS1), and trunks in service each year (cumulative).

10.3.1 Initial Forecasts/Trunking Requirements. Because BA's trunking requirements will, at least during an initial period, be dependent on the customer segments and service segments within customer segments to whom Starpower decides to market its services, BA will be largely dependent on Starpower to provide accurate trunk forecasts for both inbound (from BA) and outbound (from Starpower) traffic. BA will, as an initial matter and upon request, provide the same number of trunks to terminate local traffic to Starpower as Starpower provides to terminate local traffic to BA, unless Starpower expressly identifies particular situations that are expected to produce traffic that is substantially skewed in either the inbound or outbound direction, in which case BA will provide the number of trunks Starpower suggests. Upon the establishment of any new set of trunks for traffic from BA to Starpower, BA will monitor traffic for ninety (90) days, and will, as necessary at the end of that period, either augment trunks or disconnect trunks, based on the application of reasonable engineering criteria to the actual traffic volume experienced. If, after such 90-day period, BA has determined that the trunks are not warranted by actual traffic volumes, then, on ten (10) days' written notice, BA may hold Starpower financially responsible for such trunks retroactive to the start of the 90-day period until such time as they are justified by actual traffic volumes, based on the application of reasonable engineering criteria. To the extent that BA requires Starpower to install trunks for delivery of traffic to BA, Starpower may apply the same procedures with respect to BA's trunking requirements.

11.0 UNBUNDLED ACCESS – SECTION 251(c)(3).

To the extent required of each Party by Section 251 of the Act, each Party shall offer to the other Party nondiscriminatory access to Network Elements on an unbundled basis at any technically

feasible point. BA shall unbundle and separately price and offer Network Elements such that Starpower will be able to lease and interconnect to whichever of the Network Elements Starpower requires, and to combine the BA-provided elements with any facilities and services that Starpower may itself provide, except that Starpower shall not recombine Network Elements purchased from BA for use as a substitute for the purchase at wholesale rates of Telecommunications Services that BA provides unless otherwise mandated by the FCC or the Commission or agreed to by BA with other carriers.

11.1 Unbundled Local Loop ("ULL") Transmission Types

Subject to subsection 11.4, BA shall allow Starpower to access the following ULL types (in addition to those ULLs available under applicable tariffs) unbundled from local switching and local transport in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in this subsection 11.1.

11.1.1 "2-Wire Analog Voice Grade ULL" or "Analog 2W" provides an effective 2-wire channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of analog voice grade (nominal 300 to 3000 Hz) signals and loop-start signaling. The service is more fully described in Bell Atlantic TR-72565. If "Customer-Specified Signaling" is requested, the service will operate with one of the following signaling types that may be specified when the service is ordered: loop-start, ground-start, loop-reverse-battery, and no signaling. The service is more fully described in Bell Atlantic TR-72570.

11.1.2 "4-Wire Analog Voice Grade ULL" or "Analog 4W" provides an effective 4-wire channel with 4-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of analog voice grade (nominal 300 to 3000 Hz) signals. The service will operate with one of the following signaling types that may be specified when the service is ordered: loop-start, ground-start, loop-reverse-battery, duplex, and no signaling. The service is more fully described in Bell Atlantic TR-72570.

11.1.3 "2-Wire ISDN Digital Grade ULL" or "BRI ISDN" provides a channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of 160 kbps digital services using the ISDN 2B1Q line code.

11.1.4 "2-Wire ADSL-Compatible ULL" or "ADSL 2W" provides a channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of digital signals up to 6Mbps toward the Customer and up to 640 kbps from the Customer. BA will offer ADSL-Compatible ULLs only when the technology BA uses to provide such ULLs is compatible with that of Starpower. In addition, ADSL-Compatible ULLs will be available only where existing copper facilities can meet applicable industry standards.

11.1.5 "2-Wire HDSL-Compatible ULL" or "HDSL 2W" provides a channel with 2-wire interfaces at each end that is suitable for the transport of 784 kbps digital signals simultaneously in both directions using the 2B1Q line code. HDSL compatible ULLs will be available only where existing copper facilities can meet the specifications.

11.1.6 "4-Wire HDSL-Compatible ULL" or "HDSL 4W" provides a channel with 4-wire interfaces at each end. Each 2-wire channel is suitable for the transport of 784 kbps digital signals simultaneously in both directions using the 2B1Q line code. HDSL compatible ULLs will be available only where existing copper facilities can meet the specifications.

11.1.7 ULLs will be offered on the terms and conditions specified herein and on such other terms in applicable Tariffs that are not inconsistent with the terms and conditions set forth herein. BA shall make ULLs available to Starpower at the rates specified by the Commission, as amended from time to time, subject to the provisions of subsection 11.1.8 below.

11.1.8 BA will make Analog 2-Wire ULLs available for lease by Starpower in accordance with the schedule set forth in Schedule 3.0. BA will make BRI ISDN and Analog 4W ULLs available for lease by Starpower by the later of January 1, 1997, or the date when the ULL milestone contained in Schedule 3.0 is achieved in the LATA. BA will make ADSL 2W, HDSL 2W, and HDSL 4W ULLs available for lease by Starpower as soon as practicable, but in any event no later than six months, after BA makes the services using equivalent loop facilities commercially available to its own end-user Customers in Virginia. Upon request by either BA or Starpower, the Parties shall agree upon a reasonable schedule and location for a technical and operational trial(s) of ADSL 2W, HDSL 2W, and/or HDSL 4W ULLs. Such trial(s) may, by mutual agreement, be conducted in any jurisdiction in which affiliates of BA and Starpower both operate. Upon successful completion of such trial(s), the Parties shall agree upon an implementation schedule for the ULL type(s) subject to such trial(s), which schedule shall begin no later than ninety (90) days after successful completion of such trial(s).

11.2 Port Types

BA shall make available to Starpower unbundled 2-wire analog line and 2-wire analog trunk Ports on the terms and conditions specified herein and on such other terms in applicable Tariffs that are not inconsistent with the terms and conditions set forth herein. BA will offer Starpower Ports utilizing other technologies as they become available, upon bona fide request by Starpower.

11.3 Trunk Side Local Transport

BA shall provide Starpower local transport from the trunk side of BA's Central Office Switches using private lines and special access services unbundled from switching and other services in accordance with the terms and conditions of BA's existing or filed Tariffs, as referenced in Exhibit A.

11.4 Limitations on Unbundled Access

11.4.1 Unless otherwise mandated by the FCC or the Commission or agreed to by BA with other carriers, Starpower may not cross-connect a BA-provided ULL to a BA-provided Port, but instead shall purchase a network access line under applicable tariffs.

11.4.2 BA shall only be required to make available ULLs and Ports where such ULLs and Ports are available.

11.4.3 Starpower shall access BA's unbundled Network Elements specifically identified in this Agreement via Collocation in accordance with Section 13 at the BA Wire Center where those elements exist and each ULL or Port shall be delivered to Starpower's Collocation by means of a Cross Connection.

11.4.4 BA shall provide Starpower access to its Unbundled Local Loops at each of BA's Wire Centers for loops terminating in that Wire Center. In addition, if Starpower requests one or more ULLs provisioned via Integrated Digital Loop Carrier or Remote Switching technology deployed as a ULL concentrator, BA shall, where available, move the requested ULL(s) to a spare, existing physical ULL at no additional charge to Starpower. If, however, no spare physical ULL is available, BA shall within three (3) business days of Starpower's request notify Starpower of the lack of available facilities. Starpower may then at its discretion make a Network Element Bona Fide Request to BA to provide the Unbundled Local Loop through the demultiplexing of the integrated digitized ULL(s). Starpower may also make a Network Element Bona Fide Request for access to Unbundled Local Loops at the ULL concentration site point. Alternatively, Starpower may choose to avail itself of BA's Special Construction services, as set forth in Exhibit A, for the provisioning of such ULL(s). Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, the provisioning intervals set forth in subsection 11.6 and the Performance Criteria and Performance Interval Dates set forth in subsection 27.1 and Schedule 27, respectively, shall not apply to ULLs provided under this subsection 11.4.4.

11.4.5 If Starpower orders a ULL type and the distance requested on such ULL exceeds the transmission characteristics in applicable technical references, distance extensions may be required and additional rates and charges shall apply as set forth in Exhibit A or applicable Tariffs.

11.4.6 BA will exercise all reasonable efforts to ensure that the service intervals that apply to ULLs and unbundled Ports are comparable to the (i) repair intervals that apply to the bundled dial tone line service, and (ii) installation intervals that apply to other BA-coordinated services, except as provided in Section 27. Although BA will make commercially reasonable efforts to ensure that ULLs and unbundled ports meet specified or agreed-upon technical standards, BA makes no warranty that the ULLs or unbundled Ports supplied by BA hereunder will be compatible with the services Starpower may offer to its Customers if they are used in a manner not contemplated by the Parties.

11.5 Availability of Other Network Elements on an Unbundled Basis

11.5.1 BA shall, upon request of Starpower, and to the extent technically feasible, provide to Starpower access to its Network Elements on an unbundled basis for the provision of Starpower's Telecommunications Service. Any request by Starpower for access to an BA Network Element that is not already available shall be treated as a Network Element Bona Fide Request. Starpower shall provide BA access to its Network Elements as mutually agreed by the Parties or as required by the Commission or FCC.

11.5.2 A Network Element obtained by one Party from the other Party under this subsection 11.5 may be used in combination with the facilities of the requesting Party only to provide a Telecommunications Service, including obtaining billing and collection, transmission, and routing of the Telecommunications Service.

11.5.3 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this subsection 11.5, a Party shall not be required to provide a proprietary Network Element to the other Party under this subsection 11.5 except as required by the Commission or FCC.

11.6 Provisioning of Unbundled Local Loops

The following coordination procedures shall apply for conversions of "live" Telephone Exchange Services to ULLs. These and other mutually agreed-upon procedures shall apply reciprocally for the "live" cutover of Customers from BA to Starpower and from Starpower to BA.

11.6.1 Upon request by Starpower, BA will apply the following coordination procedures to conversions of live Telephone Exchange Services to ULLs. Coordinated cutover charges will apply to any such arrangement, only to the extent provided by Section A.4.a of Exhibit A. If Starpower elects not to request coordinated cutover, BA will process Starpower's request in the normal course and subject to the normal installation intervals.

11.6.2 Starpower shall request ULLs from BA by delivering to BA a valid electronic transmittal service order (when available) or another mutually agreed-upon type of service order. Such service order shall be provided in accordance with industry format and specifications or such format and specifications as may be agreed to by the Parties. Within forty-eight (48) hours of BA's receipt of such valid service order, BA shall provide Starpower the firm order commitment date according to the Performance Interval Dates set forth in Schedule 27 by which the ULLs covered by such service order will be installed. In addition, BA shall provide Starpower with the related ULL design information, if available, at least forty eight (48) hours prior to the scheduled cutover time.

11.6.3 On each ULL order in a Wire Center, Starpower and BA will agree on a cutover time at least forty eight (48) hours before that cutover time. The cutover time will be defined as a 15-30 minute window within which both the Starpower and BA personnel will make telephone contact to complete the cutover.

11.6.4 Within the appointed 15-30 minute cutover time, the Starpower person will call the BA organization designated to coordinate cross-connection work and when the BA organization is reached in that interval such work will be promptly performed.

11.6.5 If Starpower requires a change in scheduling, it must contact BA to issue a supplement to the original order. The negotiations process to determine the date and time of cutover will then be reinitiated as usual.

11.6.6 If the Starpower person is not ready within the appointed interval and if Starpower had not called to reschedule the work at least two (2) hours prior to the start of the interval, Starpower shall be liable for the non-recurring charge for the unbundled elements scheduled for the missed appointment. In addition, non-recurring charges for the rescheduled appointment will apply.

11.6.7 If BA is not available or not ready at any time during the appointed 15-30 minute interval, Starpower and BA will reschedule and BA will waive the non-recurring charge for the unbundled elements originally scheduled for that interval, whenever those unbundled elements are actually cut over pursuant to an agreed-upon rescheduling.

11.6.8 The standard time expected from disconnection of a live Telephone Exchange Service to the connection of the unbundled element to the Starpower Collocation Arrangement is fifteen (15) minutes per voice grade circuit for all orders consisting of fifteen (15) ULLs or less. Orders involving more than fifteen (15) ULLs will require a negotiated interval.

11.6.9 If unusual or unexpected circumstances prolong or extend the time required to accomplish the coordinated cutover, the Party responsible for such circumstances is responsible for the reasonable labor charges of the other Party. Delays caused by the Customer are the responsibility of Starpower.

11.6.10 If Starpower has ordered INP as part of an ULL installation, BA will coordinate implementation of INP with the ULL installation. BA's provision of unbundled elements shall in all cases be subject to the availability of suitable facilities, to the extent permitted by Section 251 of the Act.

11.6.11 If Starpower requests or approves a BA technician to perform services on the network side of the Rate Demarcation Point beyond normal installation of the ULLs covered by the service order, BA may charge Starpower for any additional and reasonable labor charges to perform such services. BA may also charge Starpower its normal overtime rates for services Starpower requests to be performed outside of BA's normal business hours (M-F, 9 am to 5 pm, E.S.T.).